

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 DOE-15 SOE-02
IO-13 SAA-01 SES-02 /115 W
-----078127 111157Z /47

P R 111103Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8322
AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP, PERP TC JA
SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA'S VISIT TO UAE

1. FIRST EVER VISIT BY PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN TO UAE ON SEPTEMBER 10-11 WENT SMOOTHLY. UAE LEADERSHIP WAS OBVIOUSLY PLEASED AND FLATTERED THAT ABUDHABI WAS ONE OF FUKUDA'S STOPS. SEVERAL MEMBERS OF LARGE (123 MAN) JAPANESE DELEGATION ACCOMPANYING FUKUDA VOCALLY FELT IT HIGH TIME PERSON OF FUKUDA'S STATURE VISIT UAE GIVEN FACT 10 PERCENT OF JAPAN'S OIL IMPORTS COME FROM UAE (US IS IN SECOND PLACE) AND JAPAN STILL HAS LARGE TRADE DEFICIT WITH UAE ALTHOUGH IT IS UAE'S NUMBER ONE SUPPLIER. MUCH OF PUBLIC ASPECTS OF VISIT AND COMMENTS TO MEDIA EMPHASIZED ECONOMIC AND TRADE TIES BETWEEN BOTH COUNTRIES WITH COMMON THEME THAT JAPAN NEEDS UAE'S OIL AND UAE NEEDS JAPANESE TECHNOLOGY TO BUILD A MODERN STATE, PARTICULARLY IN FIELDS OF PETROCHEMICALS, WATER DESALINATION, AGRICULTURE, LAND RECLAMATION AND VARIOUS ASPECTS OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT. VISIT COINCIDED WITH SIGNATURE (PRESUMABLY
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PURPOSELY TIMED) BETWEEN ABU DHABI NATIONAL OIL CO. AND JAPANESE OIL DEVELOPMENT CO. FOR DEVELOPING UMM AL DALKH OFFSHORE FIELD (77 ABU DHABI A-63).

2. PM FUKUDA WAS MET ON HIS ARRIVAL BY THIS COUNTERPART, SHAIKH MAKTUM BIN RASHID. AFTER MEETINGS BETWEEN PRIME MINISTERS AND BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTER SONODA AND UAE FONMIN SUWAIDI,

FUKUDA TOURED ABU DHABI CITY VISITING RECENTLY ESTABLISHED JAPANESE SCHOOL, WHICH SERVICING RAPIDLY EXPANDING JAPANESE COMMUNITY HERE, AS WELL AS MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF JAPANESE COMMUNITY ITSELF. IN EARLY EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 10, PM FUKUDA HELD TWO HOUR MEETING WITH UAE PRESIDENT SHAIKH ZAYID WHICH FOLLOWED BY SOCIAL EVENTS AND ISSUANCE OF PRESS RELEASE WHICH APPEARS CONTAIN MANY OF SAME POINTS OF STATEMENT ISSUED PREVIOUS DAY WHEN FUKUDA WAS IN QATAR.

3. IN JOINT RELEASE:

--A. BOTH LEADERS AGREED JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST ESSENTIAL WORLD PEACE;

--B. PM FUKUDA REAFFIRMED GOJ POSITION THAT TO ACHIEVE SUCH PEACE, IT DEEMED IT NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SC RES 242 "INCLUDING WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES FROM ALL TERRITORIES OCCUPIED IN THE 1967 WAR AND RECOGNITION AND RESPECT FOR THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE INCLUDING THEIR RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UN CHARTER";

--C. SHAIKH ZAYID'S EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR GOJ'S POSITION ON MIDDLE EAST QUESTION;

--D. PM FUKUDA'S PAID HIGH TRIBUTE TO "THE MODERATE POLICY OF THE UAE ON OIL PRICES" AND THE IMPORTANT ROLE PLAYED BY UAE FOR STABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GULF AREA "WHICH IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT AREAS OF THE WORLD";

--E. BOTH LEADERS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION OVER THE RAPID GROWTH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF TRADE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES; AND

--F. PM FUKUDA RENEWED GOJ INVITATION TO SHIAKH ZAYID TO MAKE A STATE VISIT TO JAPAN WHICH ZAYID AGREED AT A DATE TO BE ARRANGED LATER THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS.

4. COMMENT: THIS WAS OBVIOUSLY AN EASY VISIT FOR UAE LEADERSHIP. REAFFIRMATION OF GOJ POSITION ON OCCUPIED TERROTRIES WAS WHAT UAE WANTED TO HEAR. AT SAME TIME, PRAISE HEAPED ON ZAYID FOR HIS RESPONSIBILITY AND MODERATE STAND ON WORLD ISSUES WAS WELCOMED AFTER A LONG HOT SUMMER OF DEALING WITH INTERNAL POLITICAL PROBLEMS AMONG EMIRATES. VISIT CERTAINLY HELPED ENHANCED ZAYID'S POSITION VIA-A-VIS OTHER EMIRATE RULERS. DICKMAN.

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